

S. 2739

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2739, a bill to amend title 39, United States Code, to provide for the issuance of a semipostal stamp in order to afford the public a convenient way to contribute to funding for the establishment of the World War II Memorial.

S. 2769

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2769, a bill to authorize funding for National Instant Criminal Background Check System improvements.

S. 2787

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. MOYNIHAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2787, a bill to reauthorize the Federal programs to prevent violence against women, and for other purposes.

S. 2807

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2807, a bill to amend the Social Security Act to establish a Medicare Prescription Drug and Supplemental Benefit Program and to stabilize and improve the Medicare+Choice program, and for other purposes.

S. 2815

At the request of Mr. CLELAND, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2815, a bill to provide for the nationwide designation of 2-1-1 as a toll-free telephone number for access to information and referrals on human services, to encourage the deployment of the toll-free telephone number, and for other purposes.

S. 2851

At the request of Mr. CLELAND, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2851, a bill to require certain information from the President before certain deployments of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S.CON.RES. 2

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mr. GORTON) was added as a cosponsor of S.Con.Res. 2, a concurrent resolution recommending the integration of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

S.CON.RES. 111

At the request of Mr. NICKLES, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) was added as a cosponsor of S.Con.Res. 111, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding ensuring a competitive North American market for softwood lumber.

S.RES. 294

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S.Res. 294, a resolution designating the month of October 2000 as "Children's Internet Safety Month".

S.RES. 301

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SMITH), and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) were added as cosponsors of S.Res. 301, a resolution designating August 16, 2000, as "National Airborne Day".

S.RES. 304

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE) was added as a cosponsor of S.Res. 304, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the development of educational programs on veterans' contributions to the country and the designation of the week that includes Veterans Day as "National Veterans Awareness Week" for the presentation of such educational programs.

AMENDMENT NO. 3767

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3767 proposed to S. 2549, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3794

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3794 proposed to S. 2549, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3817

At the request of Mr. GORTON, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3817 proposed to S. 2549, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 335—CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF MEXICO ON THE OCCASION OF THE DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS HELD IN THAT COUNTRY

Mr. HELMS (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. L. CHAFEE, Mr. DODD, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, Mr. CRAIG, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. FRIST, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. KYL, and Mr. BROWNBACK) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 335

Whereas the United States and Mexico share a border of more than 2,000 miles;

Whereas Mexico is the second largest trade partner of the United States, with a two-way trade of \$174,000,000,000;

Whereas United States companies have invested more than \$25,000,000,000 in Mexico from 1994-1999;

Whereas more than 20,000,000 people now in the United States are of Mexican descent, a fact that in and of itself forges profound and permanent cultural ties between our 2 countries;

Whereas the well-being and security of the United States and Mexico require governments willing and able to cooperate fully to confront common threats, including organized crime, corruption, and trafficking in illicit narcotics;

Whereas the people of Mexico have struggled for decades for a true representative democracy, accountability, and the rule of law and, in recent years, they have sought and obtained significant political and electoral reforms in pursuit of those objectives;

Whereas the Federal Electoral Institute and its regional councils, now genuinely independent and representative bodies, were responsible for organizing the federal elections on July 2, 2000, in which nearly 1,000,000 citizens participated directly in conducting the balloting for a new president, a new national congress, and state or local officials in Mexico City as well as 10 states;

Whereas the July 2nd elections were observed by approximately 2,500,000 domestic monitors and 850 foreign visitors, including delegations of the United States-based International Republican Institute for International Affairs and the National Democratic Institute;

Whereas in the July 2nd elections, Vicente Fox Quesada of the Alliance for Change (consisting of the National Action Party and the Mexican Green Party) was elected President of the United Mexican States, receiving 42.5 percent of the 37,600,000 votes cast, according to preliminary results released by the Federal Electoral Institute; and

Whereas, according to the Federal Electoral Institute and domestic and international observers, the July 2nd elections were unprecedented in their degree of fairness and transparency, forming the foundation for a genuinely democratic and pluralistic government that represents the will and sovereignty of the people of Mexico: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF MEXICO ON THE OCCASION OF THE DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS HELD IN MEXICO.

(a) CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF MEXICO.—The Senate, on behalf of the people of the United States, hereby—

(1) congratulates the people of Mexico for their long, courageous, and fruitful struggle for representative democracy and the rule of law;

(2) congratulates Vicente Fox Quesada for his electoral triumph and extends to him genuine best wishes for great success in his formation of a new government; and

(3) congratulates Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León, current President of the United Mexican States, for his historic commitment to ensure the peaceful and stable transition of power.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the United States should seek to—

(1) expand and intensify its cooperation with the newly elected Government of Mexico to promote economic development and to reduce poverty to achieve an improved quality of life for citizens of both countries;

(2) confront common threats such as the trafficking in illicit narcotics; and

(3) act in solidarity to actively promote representative democracy and the rule of law throughout the world.

SEC. 2. TRANSMITTAL OF RESOLUTION.

The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to—

(1) Vicente Fox Quesada, President-elect of the United Mexican States;

(2) Luis Felipe Bravo Mena, president of the National Action Party of Mexico;

(3) the International Republican Institute for International Affairs and the National Democratic Institute; and

(4) the Secretary of State with the request that the Secretary further transmit such copy to Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León, President of the United Mexican States.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

DEATH TAX ELIMINATION ACT

MOYNIHAN AMENDMENT NO. 3821

Mr. MOYNIHAN proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 8) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to phase-out the estate and gift taxes over a 10-year period; as follows:

Strike all after the first word and insert:

1. SHORT TITLE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Estate Tax Relief Act of 2000”.

(b) AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

SEC. 2. INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF UNIFIED CREDIT AGAINST ESTATE AND GIFT TAXES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The table contained in section 2010(c) (relating to applicable credit amount) is amended to read as follows:

“In the case of estates of decedents dying, and gifts made, during:

The applicable exclusion amount is:	
2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005	\$1,000,000
2006 and 2007	\$1,125,000
2008	\$1,500,000
2009 or thereafter	\$2,000,000.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to the estates of decedents dying, and gifts made, after December 31, 2000.

SEC. 3. INCREASE IN QUALIFIED FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESS INTEREST DEDUCTION AMOUNT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 2057(a) (relating to family-owned business interests) is amended to read as follows:

“(2) MAXIMUM DEDUCTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The deduction allowed by this section shall not exceed the sum of—

“(i) the applicable deduction amount, plus

“(ii) in the case of a decedent described in subparagraph (C), the applicable unused spousal deduction amount.

“(B) APPLICABLE DEDUCTION AMOUNT.—For purposes of this subparagraph (A)(i), the applicable deduction amount is determined in accordance with the following table:

“In the case of estates of decedents dying during:

The applicable deduction amount is:	
2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005	\$1,375,000
2006 and 2007	\$1,625,000
2008	\$2,375,000
2009 or thereafter	\$3,375,000.”

“(C) APPLICABLE UNUSED SPOUSAL DEDUCTION AMOUNT.—With respect to a decedent whose immediately predeceased spouse died after December 31, 2000, and the estate of such immediately predeceased spouse met the requirements of subsection (b)(1), the applicable unused spousal deduction amount for such decedent is equal to the excess of—

“(i) the applicable deduction amount allowable under this section to the estate of such immediately predeceased spouse, over

“(ii) the sum of—

“(I) the applicable deduction amount allowed under this section to the estate of such immediately predeceased spouse, plus

“(II) the amount of any increase in such estate’s unified credit under paragraph (3)(B) which was allowed to such estate.”

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 2057(a)(3)(B) is amended—

(1) by striking “\$675,000” both places it appears and inserting “the applicable deduction amount”, and

(2) by striking “\$675,000” in the heading and inserting “APPLICABLE DEDUCTION AMOUNT”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to the estates of decedents dying, and gifts made, after December 31, 2000.

SEC. 4. SENSE OF SENATE REGARDING SAVINGS.

It is the sense of the Senate that the reduced cost to the Federal Treasury resulting from the amendments made by this Act as compared to the cost to the Federal Treasury of H.R. 8 as received by the Senate from the House of Representatives on June 12, 2000, should be used exclusively to reduce the Federal debt held by the public.

Amend the title so as to read: “An Act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the unified credit exemption and the qualified family-owned business interest deduction, and for other purposes.”

SCHUMER (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 3822

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BAYH, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. ROBB) proposed an amendment to the bill, H.R. 8, supra; as follows:

Strike all after the first word and insert:

1. SHORT TITLE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Estate Tax Relief Act of 2000”.

(b) AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

TITLE I—ESTATE TAX RELIEF

SEC. 101. INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF UNIFIED CREDIT AGAINST ESTATE AND GIFT TAXES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The table contained in section 2010(c) (relating to applicable credit amount) is amended to read as follows:

“In the case of estates of decedents dying, and gifts made, during:

The applicable exclusion amount is:	
2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005	\$1,000,000
2006 and 2007	\$1,125,000
2008	\$1,500,000
2009 or thereafter	\$2,000,000.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to the estates of decedents dying, and gifts made, after December 31, 2000.

SEC. 102. INCREASE IN QUALIFIED FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESS INTEREST DEDUCTION AMOUNT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 2057(a) (relating to family-owned business interests) is amended to read as follows:

“(2) MAXIMUM DEDUCTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The deduction allowed by this section shall not exceed the sum of—

“(i) the applicable deduction amount, plus

“(ii) in the case of a decedent described in subparagraph (C), the applicable unused spousal deduction amount.

“(B) APPLICABLE DEDUCTION AMOUNT.—For purposes of this subparagraph (A)(i), the applicable deduction amount is determined in accordance with the following table:

“In the case of estates of decedents dying, and gifts made, during:

The applicable exclusion amount is:	
2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005	\$1,375,000
2006 and 2007	\$1,625,000
2008	\$2,375,000
2009 or thereafter	\$3,375,000.”

“(C) APPLICABLE UNUSED SPOUSAL DEDUCTION AMOUNT.—With respect to a decedent whose immediately predeceased spouse died after December 31, 2000, and the estate of such immediately predeceased spouse met the requirements of subsection (b)(1), the applicable unused spousal deduction amount for such decedent is equal to the excess of—

“(i) the applicable deduction amount allowable under this section to the estate of such immediately predeceased spouse, over

“(ii) the sum of—

“(I) the applicable deduction amount allowed under this section to the estate of such immediately predeceased spouse, plus

“(II) the amount of any increase in such estate’s unified credit under paragraph (3)(B) which was allowed to such estate.”